



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/706,535	11/12/2003	Winston Zonh Ho		6896
7590	11/22/2006		EXAMINER	
Winston Zonh Ho 14541 Langhill Drive Hacienda Heights, CA 91745				GORDON, BRIAN R
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	1743

DATE MAILED: 11/22/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/706,535	HO, WINSTON ZONH	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Brian R. Gordon	1743	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 1-12-03.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) 7-15 is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claim 4 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 4 is directed to proprietary trademarks, which compositions may change without notice. Applicant should claim the generic compositions to clearly indicate the desired material.

As to claim 6, it is unclear how one can claim a light beam. It appears as if the claim should be directed to a light source for transmitting a light beam through the pipette tip.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States

Art Unit: 1743

only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Brewer US 6,566,145.

Brewer discloses a pipette tip 10 can be made of any inexpensive material or commodity plastic, but is preferably made from a polyolefin, and most preferably made from polyethylene, polypropylene, polyethylene-terephthalate, or polytetrafluoroethylene. The distal end 20 is configured to fit on the end of a standard laboratory pipettor. The proximal end 12 is configured to allow the passage of whatever fluid one wishes to sample with the pipettor. Moreover, the pipette tip is preferably conical in shape, with distal end 20 having a larger internal diameter than proximal end 12.

5. Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Shukla et al. US 6,537,502.

Shukla et al. discloses a pipette tip. The tube, shown in FIG. 1 as a pipette tip, can be made of any material and in any configuration depending on the specifications of a given experiment. Said tube (1) may enclose a volume from 0.0001 to 100 milliliters. Said tube can be of any shape or size and can be composed of combination of one or more different polymer materials from the group consisting of, but not limited to, polytetrafluoroethylene, polysulfone, polyethersulfone, cellulose acetate, polystyrene, polystyrene/acrylonitrile copolymer and PVDF (Kynar).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

8. Claims 1-3, and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Treptow et al. US 5,844,086 in view of Brewer.

Treptow et al. disclose a hand apparatus for pipetting and photometrically evaluating samples which comprise a pipetting means, an integrated photometer and a replaceable pipette tip connected to said pipetting means, said pipette tip being defined as a cell and provided within the optical path of the photometer for photometrically evaluating absorbed samples.

Treptow discloses a plastic pipette tip 4 within the area of the optical path 6, 7 comprises two plane-parallel windows 8, 9 on opposite sides of its wall (compare FIG. 2). Furthermore, it includes a coding 10 at its proximal end, which serves the transfer of information to an electronic evaluation means of the piston pipette 1.

Treptow does not specify the type of plastic.

Brewer discloses discloses a pipette tip 10 can be made of any inexpensive material or commodity plastic, but is preferably made from a polyolefin, and most preferably made from polyethylene, polypropylene, polyethylene-terephthalate, or polytetrafluoroethylene.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill to manufacture the tip of Treptow from the inexpensive plastic material as disclosed by Brewer in order to reduce the production cost.

Allowable Subject Matter

9. Claims 6-9 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

10. Claims 10-15 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

11. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The prior art of record does not teach nor fairly suggest an UV absorbance measuring apparatus for measuring concentrations of protein or nuclei acid samples, said apparatus comprising: a pipette tip of claim 1; a pipette for drawing said samples into said pipette tip; a light source for transmitting a light beam through said pipette tip and said sample; and an optical detector for measuring the intensity of the transmitted light beam and the subsequent calculation of the concentrations of the samples.

Conclusion

12. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Itaya, Hideki et al.; Zhao; Mingqi et al.; Sutton; John E. et al.; Chandler; Van S.; Buehler; John D.; Zhang; Jack Yongfeng et al.; Zhang Jack; Yongfeng et al.; Anderson; Norman G. et al.; Seto; Shunichi et al.; Astle; Thomas W.; Root; David et al.; Goodman; Jack; Filbert, Jr.; William C.; St. Amand; Elmer F.; Saint-Amand; Elmer; and St. Amand; Elmer F. disclose pipette devices.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brian R. Gordon whose telephone number is 571-272-1258. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, with 2nd and 4th F off.

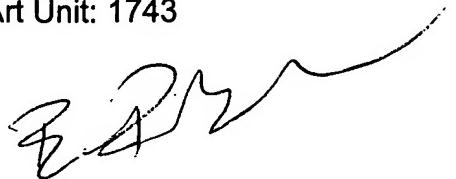
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jill Warden can be reached on 571-272-1267. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Application/Control Number: 10/706,535

Page 7

Art Unit: 1743

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "BRIAN R. GORDON".

brg

BRIAN R. GORDON
PRIMARY EXAMINER